SPOTLIGHT ON UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The Bluff Street Corridor Project is more than just an improved roadway to keep traffic moving smoothly through the area. This project goes much deeper. . . about 24 to 48 inches deeper. This is the area under the roadway where construction will start. Six different utilities are buried in various locations under the current road. . . water, sewer, electric, natural gas, telephone, fiber optic communications and we will be adding a seventh – a new storm drain.

A subsurface utility engineering company was hired to coordinate with all of the utilities and obtain schematic mapping from them. The engineers take the schematic information and physically locate the utilities in the field. Test holes are drilled on-site to locate each utility in various locations establishing a vertical profile. By doing so much research prior to construction we are giving the contractor the best information to construct the roadway with no unplanned, service interruptions to customers in the area.

There are standards which designers adhere to while creating a complicated project like this one.

For instance,

- There are minimum standards of separation for certain utilities like sewer and water, or water and power, or gas and power.
- Each utility is responsible for protecting their line from the elements underground.
- Utilities will use conduits, coatings and specific materials to surround and protect their pipe.

St George City has a joint utility committee where representatives for each of the utilities meet to coordinate design impacts and insure any new construction will work seamlessly with all of the utility companies. Each utility owner has assessed their individual needs and has planned for future growth.

Once construction begins the contractor will coordinate work on the various utilities with their overall construction schedule. Utility representatives will be at weekly team coordination meetings to discuss the time needed to complete their work, coordinate with other ongoing work to lessen impacts to the construction schedule and plan for any impacts to the public.

The drawing below is a cross-section of the finished Bluff Street Corridor Project Roadway. You can see the highlighted utilities under the roadway and their relationship to each other.

We are working hard to design and build this project to meet the needs of the St George Community both for the traveling public and everyone in the community who relies on these important utilities. You could say *UDOT...Keeping Utah Moving on the*

Surface and underground!

Edges

A culinary water line is exposed and marked before construction as part of the utility profile. This task is performed on all utilities located in the proposed construction corridor.

BLUFF STREET
TYPICAL SECTION

